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(b) whether after once sending such a requisition, the head of the department can cancel the same;

(c) whether the certificate of illness granted by a registered practitioner is not sufficient; and

(d) whether there is any circular issued by the Government to the heads of the departments (especially the Police Department) advising them not to accept certificates granted by any class of registered medical practitioners?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not issued any specific orders on these points.

(c) A certificate of illness granted by a registered medical practitioner is ordinarily sufficient.

(d) There is no such circular. The Government have however declared that the head of an office will be at liberty to decline to accept, without the countersignature of the district surgeon, any medical certificate, unless it has been issued in compliance with a requisition from him.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Agency.

Construction of a bridge across the Seethapalliyeru river.

560 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention was drawn to the question of constructing a bridge across the Seethapalliyeru at Seethapalli village where the main road to Chodavaram in East Godavari crosses Seethapalliyeru;

(b) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that all traffic has to cease whenever the Seethapalliyeru is in floods;

(c) whether any estimate for the construction of the said bridge has been prepared; if so, what the estimated cost is;

(d) if such estimate has not been prepared whether the hon. Member will have one prepared; and

(e) whether the construction of the bridge will be taken up; and, if so, when?

A.—(a) The construction of a bridge across the Seethapalli stream on the Chodavaram-Maredumilli Road in the East Godavari Agency is one of the works included in the programme of agency development.

(b) The Government have had no specific report to this effect but the fact is probably as suggested.

(c) The estimate for the work has not yet been received, but it has been roughly estimated to cost Rs. 10,000.

(d) Estimates are being prepared.

(e) Yes, as soon as the estimates have been sanctioned and allotment of funds made.

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Cattle Pounds

Transfer of cattle pounds to district boards.

561 Q.--Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state--

(a) whether the Government have considered the question of transferring the cattle pounds to district boards; and

(b) if so, what the result is?

A.--(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 697 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on 30th March 1927, and the answer to question No. 390 at the August meeting of the Council.

Famine

Interest on the Famine-relief Fund.

562 Q.--Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue, the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state--

(a) what rate of interest is paid by the Central Government for the balance of Famine-relief Fund kept with it by this Government;

(b) whether any amount is proposed to be spent during the current year;

(c) whether any amount was spent in 1925-26 out of this fund; and

(d) if so, for what purpose and in which district?

A.--(a) The rate of interest paid by the Central Government for the balance at the credit of the Famine Insurance Fund is one per cent less than the rate charged during the year for advances made to the Provincial Loans Fund. The rate of interest charged to the Provincial Loans Fund in 1926-27 was $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent and the interest paid on the balances of the Famine Insurance Fund was, therefore, $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. For the current year, orders have not yet been received from the Government of India regarding the rate of interest to be charged to the Provincial Loans Fund; the rate of interest to be paid by the Central Government on the balances of the Famine Insurance Fund has not yet, therefore, been fixed.

(b) A sum of about Rs. 5,700 was spent up to 30th July 1927 in connexion with the grant of concession rates for the import of fodder by railway into the Ongole taluk of the Guntur district. It is not possible to say at present what further amount is likely to be spent in the current year.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to question No. 344 answered on 16th March 1927. The relief measures undertaken in 1925-26 were--

- (1) the grant of concession rates for the import of fodder by railway into the Coimbatore district, and
- (2) the opening of test works in that district.

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Land Revenue

Tours made by Mr. Brigstocke.

563 Q.—Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) for how many days during the year ending with 30th June 1927 Mr. Brigstocke, I.C.S., Collector of Salem, camped in Hosur and for how many days at Yercaud;

(b) the dates on which he stayed at Hosur or in its neighbourhood and at Yercaud during the above period;

(c) for how many trips during the above period Mr. Brigstocke drew travelling allowance bills for journeys to Yercaud and to Hosur;

(d) how many tours Mr. Brigstocke made to the other taluks in the Salem district during the above period of one year;

(e) whether there is a rule to the effect that the Collector of Salem is prohibited from claiming travelling allowance for trips to Yercaud exceeding a certain number during a year;

(f) the number of days for which special charges were incurred and the total amount of the contingent bills drawn by him for tappals being carried to him to Yercaud and to Hosur from the headquarters during the above period of one year;

(g) what was the particular reason why he spent such a large portion of the year at Yercaud and at Hosur instead of at the district headquarters and at other taluk centres in the district;

(h) whether it is a fact that Mrs. Brigstocke was staying at Yercaud and at Bangalore during the greater portion of the time Mr. Brigstocke camped at Yercaud and at Hosur; and

(i) whether it is a fact that the public as well as the litigants were put to considerable inconvenience and expenditure on account of the Collector's prolonged stay from district headquarters?

A.—(a), (b), (c), (d), (f) & (g) Statements showing the dates of move to and halt at Yercaud by the Collector of Salem, the purpose of his journeys and the amount of contingent expenditure incurred in the carriage of tappals to and from his camp during the period from 27th July 1926 to 27th September 1926 are appended to this answer.^a The Government have not the other details asked for.

(e) No. The hon. Member is referred to rule 80 of the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules which have been published.

(h) The Government have no information on this point.

(i) The Government are not aware that the fact is as stated.

Distribution of lands in 'Kavveru Reserve' in Nellore district among the depressed classes.

564 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the lands in 'Kavveru Reserve' in Nellore district were distributed (as promised in answer to question No. 212, dated 3rd March 1927, in May last) among the depressed classes; and

(b) if so, what the conditions on which these lands were given?

^a Vide Appendix XIII on page 148 infra.

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A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no more recent information. A report has been called for.

Failure of crops in the East Godavari district last year.

565 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the first crops in Guntami lankas in East Godavari had altogether failed last year owing to excessive rains and floods in the Godavari and the second crop failed in nearly all the lankas owing to failure of the monsoon since September last and for other reasons;

(b) if the Government have not the above information, whether they will call for the same;

(c) whether the Government have received mahazars from the lessees concerned requesting the Government to remit the amount payable;

(d) whether the Government have not power to remit the amounts due in spite of G.O. No. 586, Revenue, dated 10th March 1920, if they feel that the grievance is true and calls for help; and

(e) if so, whether the Government are prepared to make any remissions?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to questions Nos. 67 and 293 on 26th January 1927 and 15th March 1927, respectively. The Government have no further information on the subject.

(c) No.

(b), (d) & (e) The Government would be prepared to consider any recommendations made on sufficient grounds by the Collector to whom the lessees ought to apply if they consider that their losses would justify a remission.

Resolutions passed by the conference of village officers of Karvetnagar Estate.

566 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any resolutions of a conference of village officers of Karvetnagar Estate, held on 26th February 1927 at Tiruttani under the presidency of Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu, B.A., B.L., M.L.C., were received from the President; and

(b) whether it is contemplated to take them into consideration?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have called for a report on the subject from the Board of Revenue.

Revival of the Erikattu system in the Eduyiruppu village.

567 Q.—Mr. SYED TAJUDIN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Sub-Collector of Kumbakonam has, at the instance of his lateacting Head Clerk, initiated certain enquiries regarding the revival of the Erikattu system

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in the village of Eduyiruppu and other villages of Melattur firka during the recent jamabandi of Papanasam taluk; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report and lay it on the table of the House?

- A.—The Government have heard nothing of the matter in question. If the hon. Member would be good enough to inform Government what is implied in the Erikattu system the Government will be glad to consider whether the conduct of the Sub-Collector and his late acting head clerk merit investigation.

Sale value of waste lands in connexion with the Mettur project.

568 Q.—MR. SYED TAJUDIN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) on what basis in detail the sale value of waste lands to the extent of 17,557 acres was fixed at Rs. 150 per acre as stated in the appendix to the Council Proceedings, dated 28th October 1925;

(b) whether their attention has been drawn to paragraph 35 of Mr. Jackson's resettlement scheme report fixing the average market value of Rs. 14 taram assessment lands at more than Rs. 1,000 per acre;

(c) whether, in view of the fact that these waste lands become liable to an assessment of Rs. 15 per acre for first crop and Rs. 7-8-0 per acre for second crop, the Government have considered the desirability of increasing its prospective and potential market value from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 an acre after the project water is introduced and it has become a revenue producing asset thereby earning for the Government in a fair public auction a huge capital revenue of 2 to 3 crores to Government, i.e., 50 per cent of the capital outlay; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to call for, from the Board of Revenue a report on the latter points and lay it on the table with all orders passed by them regarding the tenure of sivayijamadars occupying these lands now?

A.—(a) The value was estimated by the Board of Revenue.

(b) The Government are aware of the contents of paragraph 35 of Mr. Jackson's Scheme report.

(c) & (d) The Government will consider whether it is advisable to increase the estimate of sale-proceeds. The attention of the hon. Member is however drawn to the fact that Mr. Jackson estimated the value of the best wet lands at Rs. 1,052 per acre.

The reference to the 'tenure' of a sivayijamadar in this connexion is not understood. No claim on the ground of sivayijama cultivation has been or will be admitted valid in respect of lands coming under this Project.

Relative rights of tree pattadar versus land pattadar in Tanjore district.

569 Q.—MR. SYED TAJUDIN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table of the House all the old papers quoted in 12, 21 and 36, Madras Law Reports, on the relative rights of tree pattadar *versus* land pattadar in Tanjore district; and

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(b) to state whether it is a fact that the tenure of trees standing on assessed waste lands were transferred to tope poramboke by the Collector of Tanjore in contravention of the Government Order published in 1911; if so whether the hon. Member will be pleased to call for the correspondence between the Collector of Tanjore and the Board of Revenue in 1925-26-27 and lay them on the table?

A.—(a) The hon. Member has not stated the pages of the volumes of the Law Reports at which the papers have been quoted. The Government have, however, perused certain old papers quoted in decisions relating to the Salem and Tinnevely districts. (12, Madras 203; 21, Madras 433; and 36, Madras 143). They are unable to find among them any specific report on the subject mentioned in the question.

(b) Presumably the hon. Member refers to G.O. No. 3405, Revenue, dated 14th November 1911. The suggestion that the Collector of Tanjore has modified the tenure of trees by transferring land from assessed waste to poramboke is not understood.

Action taken on the petition of W. Thiruvengada Mudaliyar.

570 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any and if so, what action has been taken on the petition dated 31st January 1927 submitted to the Secretary, Land Revenue and Settlement, by the ryots of No. 126, Movur village, Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, requesting the grant of immediate relief in respect of the Tamarai Madugu;

(b) whether it is a fact that a petition was submitted by W. Thiruvengada Mudaliyar, retired Government servant, and pattadar No. 30, Movur village, Tiruvallur taluk, to cancel the penalty of Rs. 6 which was imposed for baling water from Chetti Thangal—vide Chingleput Collector's letter No. 7485/25, dated 19th May 1925;

(c) whether another petition dated 22nd July 1927 was submitted to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, to grant immediate relief from Chetti Thangal in No. 123, Movur village, Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district; and

(d) whether the Secretary, Board of Revenue, replied in his endorsement No. 4642/27, dated 1st August 1927, stating therein that it was time-barred?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 296 on 15th March 1927.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government are not aware of the correspondence referred to.

Minor Irrigation

Levy of water-cess on the lands irrigated under tanks classed under Minor Irrigation in East Godavari.

571 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of tanks classed under minor irrigation in East Godavari;

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- (b) the extent irrigated under each ;
- (c) the water-cess levied for such lands under each tank ;
- (d) the capital expenditure incurred for each of such tanks till 1925-26 ;
- (e) the amount of expenditure sanctioned for repairs and capital works sanctioned under this head during 1926-27 ;
- (f) the amount actually spent during that period ; and
- (g) the reasons for not spending the rest ?

4.—(a) From information immediately available with the Government, the number of minor irrigation tanks in East Godavari would appear to be 961.

(b) & (c) These particulars are not available in any record or return and would have to be specially compiled.

(d) & (e) Expenditure on such works is not classed in the manner assumed in these questions. There are no capital and revenue accounts maintained and in any estimate capital expenditure is not differentiated from maintenance.

(f) & (g) The amount sanctioned for expenditure on Minor Irrigation works, i.e., Rs. 27,300, was spent in full.

Provision of funds for minor irrigation works.

572 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any desire to give effect to G.O. No. 572, Revenue, dated 13th December 1912, by providing funds at least now to carry out minor irrigation works mentioned in the above Government Order ; and

(b) whether the Government are in a position to state whether any works, and if so, which works have been carried out up till now ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the Public Works Department Administration Reports, Part II. No further detailed information is before Government.

Public Service

Alleged divergency in the figures of gazetted and non-gazetted appointments in the administration reports of 1924-25 and 1925-26.

573 Q.—Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any explanation for the divergent figures that appear as holding gazetted and non-gazetted appointments from the different communities in the services of the Government in the administration reports of 1924-25 and 1925-26 ;

(b) how it is that in the Madras Administration Report of 1925, Brahmans are supposed to have 594 gazetted appointments, whereas in 1926 they have only 402 ;

(c) what the figures would be on the 1st of April 1926 for the different communities in respect to the different services mentioned in the administration report on the same calculation as was adopted for the figures that were given as on the 1st of April 1925 ;

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(d) how this divergence arose and who was responsible for so preparing the figures as to make it impossible to achieve the main idea intended by that analysis, the idea of comparing the strength of the different communities in the services year after year;

(e) whether the Government are aware that in the Civil List issued at present there are some administrations regarding the officers of which the classification into communities is omitted; and

(f) whether it is a fact that in the list issued for the Judicial Department the castes of the Judges of the High Court are given; but the castes or the race or the religion of the members of the subordinate judiciary are omitted?

A.—(a) Yes

(b) & (d) The divergence is due to the fact that the figures in the Madras Administration Report of 1925-26 do not include officers in the High Court and the mufassal civil courts, as has been mentioned in the note to the statement in the report.

(c) The figures given in the Administration Report for the year 1924-25 in some cases include officiating and temporary appointments while in others they do not. Correct figures for the permanent and temporary and officiating staff have since been obtained from heads of departments and a statement showing these figures as they stood on 1st of April 1925 and on 1st of April 1926 is appended hereto.^a

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

Increments to unpassed clerks.

574 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have passed orders declining to give retrospective effect to the formal exemption given to unpassed clerks as per G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925;

(b) whether they have considered the fact that these exempted unpassed clerks have put in long approved service and had been drawing increments for more than a year which had been sanctioned by the heads of offices under the powers vested in them under the Fundamental Rules;

(c) whether it is to be understood that the Government have disregarded or have not considered the representations made by the Board of Revenue on 12th February 1926 and other heads of departments referred to in the answer to question No. 1750, dated 23rd March 1926, regarding giving retrospective effect to the exemption orders;

(d) whether it is a fact that certain clerks who were exempted by the Chief Conservator of Forests have been drawing increments retrospectively from 1st March 1923 and not after two years from the date of exemption;

(e) whether it is a fact that unpassed Secondary School-Leaving Certificate clerks who have been similarly exempted either by heads of departments or by Collectors have been allowed to draw increments and count continuous service prior to the date of their exemption;

^a Vide Appendix XIV on page 149 infra.

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(f) if so, on what grounds the distinction is being shown to similarly exempted unpassed clerks who had been drawing increments under the sanction of the heads of offices for more than a year, but subsequently recovered for none of their fault ;

(g) whether they had in view the retrospective effect given to exemption orders while passing orders in paragraph 3 (iv) of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 4th May 1926 ; and

(h) if so, why they changed their views and what are the grounds for such a change ?

A.—(a), (d) & (f) The hon. Member is informed that G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, did not give 'formal exemption to unpassed clerks', but only defined the circumstances in which they could draw increments. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to question No. 785 of 1927.

(c) No.

(e) It is not clear what the hon. Member means by 'unpassed Secondary School-Leaving Certificate clerks who have been exempted'. The hon. Member possibly refers to clerks in the Revenue Department who were exempted by the Board of Revenue from certain conditions prescribed by the Board itself under its powers; these clerks possessed the qualifications prescribed in the Public Service Notification and therefore required no exemption from Government.

(g) & (h) In 1925 the Government laid down that service for purposes of increment would count only from the date of exemption and that policy has been adhered to. Further consideration has shown no reason to depart from it. The Government are not aware of any change of view. In paragraph 3 (iv) of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926, Government only said they would consider the question. They did so with the result above stated.

Exemption of unpassed clerks from the Public Service Notification.

575 Q.—Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that such of the unpassed clerks of the Educational Department as were exempted by the Director of Public Instruction under amendment to rule I of the Public Service Notification by virtue of their having put in two years service as clerks prior to 6th August 1917 under the orders of the Government are now required to refund the increment drawn by them from 1st March 1925 to 25th September 1925, although they were started in the inferior time-scale of pay fixed for clerks and were also permitted to draw their increments automatically with effect from 1st March 1921, the date of the introduction of the new time-scale ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a few unpassed clerks of the same department whose exemption under amendment to rule I of the Public Service Notification could not be dealt with by the Director of Public Instruction for the reason that they had not put in two years service as clerks

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prior to 6th August 1917 were subsequently granted exemption by the Local Government and were similarly started in the same time-scale of pay with effect from 1st March 1921 and permitted to draw their increments automatically without interruption or question of refund ;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to restore the disallowed increment to the poorly paid clerks of the first description and to keep them at least on a par with the other set of unpassed clerks in respect of their pay in the new time-scale ; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to give retrospective effect from 1st March 1921 to G.O. No. 949, dated 5th November 1926 ?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware of any such amendment to rule I of the Public Service Notification empowering the Director of Public Instruction to exempt certain clerks. Possibly the hon. Member has in mind the last note under Article I of the Public Service Notification. Unpassed clerks coming under that note require no exemption for promotion to, or confirmation in, appointments carrying a substantive pay of Rs. 35 per mensem in the mufassal or Rs. 40 per mensem in the Madras City. Such clerks are not entitled to increments under that note.

(b) The Director of Public Instruction could not exempt under the note to Article I of the Public Service Notification to which the hon. Member apparently refers. All clerks who had been exempted by Government only to a specified limit in the old graded scale of pay but were allowed by heads of departments without further formal exemption to rise in the lower time-scale of Rs. ³⁵⁻⁻⁶⁰₄₀₋₋₆₅ and whose cases were included by heads of departments in their lists for Government's approval, were allowed in G.O. No. 949, Public, dated 5th November 1926, to rise to the efficiency bar at Rs. 50 or Rs. 55, as the case might be, in the inferior time-scale.

(c) The unpassed clerks referred to by the hon. Member would have to be exempted by Government from the provisions of Article 1 of the Public Service Notification before they could rise in the time-scale.

(d) Government have laid down a general policy that retrospective effect to orders sanctioning exemption should not be given. They see no reason to deviate from that policy.

Memorial from the non-gazetted officers of Vizagapatam.

576 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorial has been received from the non-gazetted officers of Vizagapatam regarding the grant of compensatory allowance to meet the high cost of living at Vizagapatam ;

(b) whether it is contemplated to grant the request ; and

(c) if so, to what extent ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The answer to clause (b) is in the negative.

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Exemption of unpassed clerks.

577 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that many unpassed candidates were confirmed without specific exemption after the issue of G.O. No. 1021, dated 6th August 1917, and prior to G.O. No. 991, Home (Judicial), dated 29th July 1918, at a time when the minimum educational qualification for public service was Secondary School-Leaving Certificate;

(b) whether the Government are also aware of the fact that such clerks are not under G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, allowed to draw increments in the time-scale and that it was due to the fault of the respective heads of offices who failed to obtain the necessary exemption for which failure the poor clerks are now suffering; and

(c) whether the Government will issue a Government Order allowing all unpassed clerks to draw the increments in the time-scale of pay in future?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Government are aware that G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, laid down that exemption was necessary before certain clerks could rise in the time-scale.

(c) If an unpassed clerk is exempted now by Government from the provisions of Article 1 of the Public Service Notification he can draw increments in the time-scale. Each case will be considered on its merits.

Number of Indians and Europeans in the superior services.

578 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) according to the recommendations of the Lee Commission regarding superior services dealt with by them, how many Europeans and Indians ought to be now in service and how many there are actually; and

(b) whether the number of Europeans is more than the number that was fixed by the Lee Commission; if so, the reason therefor?

A.—(a) & (b) The question appears to assume that the Lee Commission recommended an annual scale of proportions between Europeans and Indians in the various services. That is not so.

What the Commission recommended was that rates of recruitment should be adopted that might be estimated to produce certain proportions of Indians and Europeans in the various services a specified number of years after the date of their report. For example, fifteen years is the specified period in the case of the Indian Civil Service and twenty-five years in the case of the Indian Police Service.

Survey and Settlement

Proposals regarding the resettlement of the East and West Godavari districts.

579 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Settlement Officers of East and West Godavari districts have sent their proposals regarding resettlement;

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(b) if so, when ;

(c) whether the Government have considered these proposals and have come to any decision ; and

(d) whether the proposals made by the Settlement Officers and decisions of the Government, if any, will be placed on the table for early information of this House ?

A.—(a) to (d) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer given to clause (a) of question No. 406.

Resettlement operations in the East Godavari district.

580 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with regard to East Godavari district—

(a) at what stage the resettlement operations are ;

(b) when the resettlement will come into force ; and

(c) whether the Settlement Officer has sent any proposals with regard to rates of assessment ; if so, what they are ?

A.—(a) The correction of the registration by the issue of rough pattas and the hearing of objections thereto and the classification of waste and poramboke lands are now in progress.

(b) No resettlement will come into force till after the expiry of the present settlement which expires with fasli 1338 (1928-29).

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 406.

Depressed Classes

Amount spent by the Commissioner of Labour in connexion with the depressed classes.

581 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the amounts spent by the Commissioner of Labour since the time the institutions were started or aided on the following :—

(1) the Depressed Classes Hostel, Madras,

(2) the Depressed Classes Hostel, Masulipatam,

(3) the Boarding House of the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore ;

(b) the basis on which grants were made for expenditure incurred ; and

(c) whether the aid given is based on the actual expenses incurred ?

A.—(a) The figures available are as follows :—

(1) The Depressed Classes Hostel, Madras—

Year.					Expenditure.
					RS.
1923-24	3,764
1924-25	7,814
1925-26	9,136

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(2) The Depressed Classes Hostel, Masulipatam—

Year.	Expenditure.
	RS.
1925-26	5,584 recurring and 1,264 non-recurring.

(3) Boarding grants to the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore—

Year.	Expenditure.
	RS.
1925-26	520
1926-27	1,365

(b) & (c) The two hostels are now maintained by Government, and Government meet the total net expenditure. The grant payable to the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore, is fixed with reference to the estimated expenditure on account of boarding the number of boys expected in the year.

Grant of lands to the depressed classes.

582 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what the population of depressed classes is;
- (b) what percentage of them had landed property prior to 1920-21;
- (c) how many of them have been granted lands by the Government after 1920-21;
- (d) whether any of these alienated the lands granted to them by Government;
- (e) if so, how many of them; and
- (f) if the above information is not available at present whether the Government will get the information and furnish to this House?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the last census report. The Government have no later information.

(b) to (f) The annual administration reports of the Labour Department give information about the extent of land assigned each year to the depressed classes. They have been placed on the Editors' Table. The Government have no further information on the points raised; and to get it would involve prolonged and elaborate enquiries in each district. The Government do not think it worth while to embark on such enquiries.

Factories Act

Application of the Factories Act to the workshop attached to the Andhra Jateeyakalasala, Masulipatam.

583 Q.—MR. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the provisions of the Factories Act have been applied to the workshop attached to the Andhra Jateeyakalasala, Masulipatam;

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(b) whether representations have been made by the authorities of the institution that it is an educational institution and therefore that it should not be brought under the Act; and

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, why such a request has been declined?

A.—(a) to (c) From an appeal received from the Secretary to the Kalasala, it appears that the workshop attached to the institute has been registered as a factory. The appeal is under consideration.

Forests

Depots in the three forest districts of Kurnool.

584 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: With reference to the reply to my question No. 82 regarding depots in the three forest districts of Kurnool answered on 23rd August 1927, that the Government had called for information, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place the report or information on the table of the House?

A.—The information asked for in Legislative Council question No. 82 is appended.^a

Transference of reserve forests to the management of panchayats in the East Godavari district.

585 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of forest in East Godavari classed as “the ryots’ forests generally”;

(b) what portion of this is under forest panchayats, if any; and

(c) if none, whether it is intended to place any portion of such forest under forest panchayats?

A.—(a) 17.07 square miles

(b) & (c) An extent of 13.28 square miles was under the management of Forest Panchayats at the end of the quarter ending 31st March 1927.

Issue of permits for manure leaves in North Arcot district.

586 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state, with reference to question No. 69, dated 26th January 1927, regarding issue of permits for manure leaves in North Arcot district—

(a) whether the information called for has been received; and

(b) if so, what it is?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The information is appended.^b

^a Vide Appendix XV on page 149 infra.

^b Vide Appendix XVI on page 150 infra.

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Quantity of sandalwood raised in this Presidency.

587 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of sandalwood raised in this Presidency in each of the last ten years;

(b) the cost incurred in each of the last ten years for raising the quantity mentioned in clause (a); and

(c) the value derived in each of the last ten years?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the Annual Administration Reports which contain all available information.

Grazing fees collected for the last five years and expenditure under this head for the same period.

588 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cattle for which grazing fees were collected in each of the last five years;

(b) the amount of fees collected in each of the last five years; and

(c) the expenditure incurred under this head during each of the last five years?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the "Return of grazing in the State Forests" appended to the Administration Report of the Forest department for the years referred to.

(c) Separate accounts showing expenditure under this head are not maintained.

Revenue and expenditure for each year from Forest department from the beginning till 1925-26.

589 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state: the revenue and the expenditure—ordinary and capital—from Forest department from the commencement till 1925-26 for each year?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the annual administration reports of the department which are placed on the Editors' Table.

Jails

Recommendations made by the Jail Industries Committee.

590 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the chief recommendations made by the Jail Industries Committee are; and

(b) whether the report made by the above Committee together with orders passed by the Government thereon will be placed on the table?

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- A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 253 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 20th August 1925. A copy^a of G.O. No. 2157, Law (General), dated 4th July 1925, which is self-contained and sets out all the recommendations of the Jail Industries Committee is, however, again placed on the Council table.

Information concerning the Malabar rebellion prisoners.

591 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the information with regard to question No. 771, dated 31st March 1927, regarding prisoners connected with the Malabar rebellion, has been received and whether the question be answered now?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 519.

Information regarding the Malabar Rebellion prisoners.

592 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to question No. 771, dated 31st March 1927, regarding prisoners connected with the Malabar rebellion—

- (a) whether the information called for has been received; and
(b) if so, whether the question will now be answered?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 519.

Labour

Report of the Unemployment Committee.

593 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any orders have been passed by the Government on the report of the Unemployment Committee; and
(b) the number of witnesses examined by the Committee?

A.—(a) No.

- (b) Twelve witnesses were examined and 216 sent replies to the questionnaire.

Navigation

Expenditure on, and the income from, the Buckingham canal.

594 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with regard to the Buckingham canal—

- (a) the capital expenditure up to the end of financial year 1926-27;
(b) the working expenses (cost of establishment and maintenance) for the last ten years;
(c) the income derived each year for the last ten years;
(d) the reasons for the decrease or increase of income, if any;
(e) the proposals, if any, from private persons to take it up and make it remunerative, and if so, what they are and from whom; and
(f) the objection, if any, raised by the Government of India to make the canal more navigable and carry more traffic as it is likely to compete with the railway traffic?

^a Separately placed on the table.

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A.—(a) The capital outlay to end of 1925-26 was Rs. 90,55,326 inclusive of indirect charges. Figures for 1926-27 are not yet available.

(b) & (c) The figures are as follows :—

					Charges.	Receipts.
					RS.	RS.
1916-17	...	...	...	...	1,23,533	66,999
1917-18	...	...	...	...	1,42,323	78,798
1918-19	...	...	...	...	1,96,722	87,428
1919-20	...	...	...	...	2,25,029	80,754
1920-21	...	...	...	...	2,24,991	76,842
1921-22	...	...	...	...	2,46,499	78,869
1922-23	...	...	...	...	2,69,843	73,814
1923-24	...	...	...	...	2,96,096	78,927
1924-25	...	...	...	...	3,31,660	80,204
1925-26	...	...	...	...	3,36,915	77,776

(d) The increase in receipts during 1917-18 and 1918-19 was attributed to the restrictions imposed on railway traffic during the war, and the fall in 1919-20 and 1920-21 to the removal of such restrictions. No special reasons have been suggested for the other variations.

(e) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to clause (g) of question No. 42 (at the meeting of 23rd August 1927).

(f) The Government are not aware that the Government of India have ever objected to the improvement of the canal.

Civil Justice

Claim of the copyists in civil courts to be regarded as belonging to a pensionable service.

595 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the prayer of the copyists in Civil Courts to be regarded as belonging to a pensionable service; and

(b) if so, whether the prayer will be accepted?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 464.

Memorial from the process-servers regarding their pay, pensions and other facilities.

596 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to say—

(a) whether any memorials were received from the process-servers regarding improvement of their pay and pensions and the grant of travelling allowances and other facilities;

(b) whether it is contemplated to grant any of their prayers; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The question is under consideration.

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Criminal Justice*Withdrawal of the prosecution of the officers of the Oil Company in Madras.*

597 Q.—Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) under what circumstances and for exactly what reasons the Government withdrew the prosecution of the officers of the Oil Company in Madras for causing grievous hurt by shooting in the recent oil strike troubles; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the case was investigated by no less an authority than the Chief Presidency Magistrate himself and that he found a prima facie case had been made out against the accused?

A.—(a) The General Secretary of the Madras Presidency Oil Men's Union, under direction of its President, asked the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, to move for the withdrawal of the cases (both those against some workmen and those against some officers of the Burma Oil Company) which arose out of the disturbances in connexion with the strike. He declared that since the strike harmony had been restored between the men and the management and that the continuance of the cases would prejudice the good relations existing between them and possibly lead to further trouble. After ascertaining that all parties concerned were agreeable to the withdrawal of the cases and after consulting the Commissioner of Police, the Government authorized the Prosecuting Inspector to announce that while it is impossible for them to condone violence at a time of strikes from whatever section it may arise, yet having regard to the representation made to them in the letter from the General Secretary of the Union and to the feelings of parties on both sides, the Government were willing, if the Court agreed, to withdraw all the cases.

(b) Yes.

Alleged irregularity of Mr. Brigstocke.

598 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether they have received complaints that Mr. Brigstocke, I.C.S., Collector of Salem, has invariably been failing to give notice of the dates of hearings of Criminal Revision and other petitions filed before him as District Magistrate, either to the parties or to their pleaders, or communicate even the final results of such proceedings?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Circumstances under which Mr. Charles Mohony shot a man.

599 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there were in the past any incidents similar to that of Mr. Charles Mohony, dated 6th August 1925, wherein European officers were concerned, if so, what they are; and

(b) whether any action was taken in such cases?

A.—(a) & (b) No such cases have been traced in the records.^c

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Estates Land Act

Introduction of an amending Bill to the Estates Land Act.

600 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) when the Committee to revise the Estates Land Act was formed;
- (b) who the members of the Committee are;
- (c) how many times the Committee has sat;
- (d) whether there were any occasions on which the Committee could not work for want of quorum; if so, how many;
- (e) whether the proceedings of the Committee will be published along with the report of the Committee;
- (f) whether it is a fact that “during the first few meetings the voting was heavily loaded against the tenants”; and
- (g) when the Bill amending the Estates Land Act will be introduced?

A.—(a) The Committee for the amendment of the Estates Land Act was constituted in G.O. No. 1917, Law (General), dated the 27th June 1924.

(b) The members of the Committee are—

The hon. the Law Member—*Chairman.*

- (1) Mr. P. L. Moore, C.I.E., I.C.S., Member, Board of Revenue.
- (2) M.R.Ry. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar Avargal, C.I.E., Advocate-General, Madras.
- (3) Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo, M.L.C.
- (4) M.R.Ry. Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar Avargal, High Court Vakil, Mylapore.
- (5) M.R.Ry. K. Jagannatha Ayyar Avargal, High Court Vakil, Madras.
- (6) M.R.Ry. P. Venkataramana Rao Avargal, High Court Vakil, Madras.
- (7) M.R.Ry. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal, M.L.C., High Court Vakil.
- (8) The Raja of Parlakimedi.
- (9) J. M. Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Government Pleader, and Public Prosecutor, Nellore.
- (10) M.R.Ry. S. Raja Rajeswara Sethupathi Avargal, Raja of Ramnad.
- (11) The Secretary, Madras Landholders' Association, Royapetta, Madras.
- (12) M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib J. A. Vedanayaka Tevar Avargal, President, Usilampatti Taluk Board, Madura.
- (13) M.R.Ry. V. Raghunatha Reddi of Tsadum, Punganur division, Chittoor district.
- (14) M.R.Ry. M. Narasimham Pantulu, Deputy Collector, through Board of Revenue.
- (15) M.R.Ry. N. Koilpillai Avargal, Assistant Secretary, Board of Revenue.
- (16) The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, M.L.C.
- (17) M.R.Ry. T. M. Krishnaswami Ayyar Avargal, High Court Vakil, ‘Bala Vilas,’ Mylapore, Madras.

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(18) M.R.Ry. B. Satyanarayana Pantulu Garu, High Court Vakil, Peter's Road, Royapetta, Madras.

(19) M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur T. Raghaviah Pantulu Garu, C.S.I., Secretary to the Committee.

(c) Seventeen times.

(d) No.

(e) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 45. On receipt of the Sub-Committee's report and the draft Bill the proceedings of the Committee will be placed on the table together with the Sub-Committee's report and the draft Bill.

(f) No.

(g) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 45.

Irrigation

Investigation of the Kistna reservoir scheme.

601 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how long ago the Kistna Reservoir scheme was investigated ;

(b) when the investigation was completed ;

(c) when plans and estimates were made ready ;

(d) what the estimated cost of the whole scheme is ;

(e) what extent of land this scheme is likely to irrigate ; and

(f) why this scheme has not been taken up for execution as yet ?

A.—(a) to (d) The proposal to construct a reservoir to supplement the November-December supply to the delta and to enable a second crop to be grown was first formulated by Mr. Reid who submitted a preliminary report in 1901. A detailed investigation of the project was recommended by the Irrigation Commission and undertaken by Mr. Reid in 1902. Detailed estimates were submitted to the Government of India in 1906 for a reservoir at Daida, but it was subsequently found that this would not satisfy the conditions of a productive work, and engineering difficulties were anticipated in the construction of the main canal. Alternative sites were then considered and a site at Pulichintala (Wadanapalli) was finally selected ; the investigation of this scheme was completed and detailed estimates were submitted to the Government of India in 1912. They amounted to Rs. 640 lakhs for 'works' only or Rs. 834 lakhs including establishment, tools and plant and indirect charges.

(e) Six lakhs ten thousand acres in the Guntur uplands ; 125,000 acres of new irrigation in the Kistna delta ; and 167,000 acres of 'late crop' irrigation.

(f) Colonel Ellis as Chief Engineer (Irrigation) in 1917 advised the Government that if the Kistna Reservoir project were undertaken it should not be commenced till the Cauvery Reservoir project was approaching completion. The Government since then have failed to secure the co-operation of His Exalted

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Highness the Nizam's Government which is essential as 75 square miles of Hyderabad State would be submerged by the reservoir, and accordingly the Tungabhadra scheme will be further considered first.

Ordinary plant ordered through Indian Stores Department, Delhi, for Metur project.

602 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the ordinary plant ordered through Indian Stores Department, Delhi, is now in operation at Metur;

(b) what the cost of this plant is; and

(c) what work it is expected to do?

A.—The Government find it difficult to answer such a question. Various machines such as engines, compressors, generators, crushers, etc., have been ordered, some through the Indian Stores Department and some otherwise; some of them have arrived and are in use, doing the work for which they were designed.

Construction of a channel from Turiyalur river.

603 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to question No. 12, dated 24th January 1927, by Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar regarding the construction of a channel from Turiyalur river—

(a) whether the information and report called for have been received; and

(b) if so, whether they will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) A report from the Chief Engineer was received last May and a copy is now placed on the table. ^a

Expenditure incurred in connexion with Godavari Anicut and the revenue derived from water-cess in respect of lands irrigated by Godavari river.

604 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total capital expenditure incurred in connexion with the Godavari Anicut, irrigation canals and other expenditure up to 1925-26;

(b) the revenue derived from water-cess in respect of the lands irrigated by the Godavari river in each year after the construction of the anicut until 1925-26;

(c) the total revenue derived from other sources until 1925-26; and

(d) the gross and net revenue from the same in the year 1925-26?

A.—(a) Rs. 1,66,42,261.

(b) The gross total from 1852 to 1926 was Rs. 15,94,00,480. For annual details the hon. Member is referred to the annual administration reports.

(c) Rs. 1,77,00,962.

(d) Rs. 42,80,292 and Rs. 33,13,938.

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Area supplied with water from the head sluice at Bobberlanka, East Godavari.

605 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether water can be supplied to Polavaram Island with the existing head sluice at Bobberlanka, East Godavari;

(b) if not, whether it is intended to widen the above head sluice;

(c) for what area the head sluice at Bobberlanka was expected to supply water; and

(d) for what area the above sluice supplies water at present?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 164,800 acres.

(d) 144,000 acres.

Construction of a dam at the junction of the Tungabhadra and Kistna rivers.

606 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI. Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it was ever contemplated to have a dam down the place where Tungabhadra joins Kistna river;

(b) if not whether enquiry will now be made into the question; and

(c) whether any memorial was received regarding the above question from the inhabitants of Thripuranthakam, Markapur taluk, Kurnool district?

A.—(a) & (b) A project for a dam at Sangameswaram, three miles east of the junction of the two rivers, has been considered, but the proposal was finally dropped in 1926 because the Government failed to come to any arrangements with the Nizam's Government on the question of the lands which would be submerged.

(c) Yes.

Police

The Goonda activities in Berhampur.

607 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any information with reference to the reply to question No. 353 answered on 27th August 1927, regarding the spread of Goonda activities in Berhampur; and

(b) whether the Government will depute a special officer from Madras or the Deputy Inspector-General, Waltair, to investigate into the causes and devise remedies for the alleged trouble?

A.—(a) Yes.

The Government understand that there are no goondas in Berhampur and never have been and consequently there are no goonda activities there. No persons therefore have been suspected or enrolled as K.Ds, nor has any action been necessary on the part of the Town Police.

(b) The Government see no reason to adopt such a course.

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Special concessions to Police officers belonging to the British army.

608 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any special allowance is granted to Police officers, who had belonged to the British army, and if so, to whom and on what grounds;

(b) whether this concession is denied to reserve inspectors who are ex-soldiers, and if so, the reason for this differential treatment; and

(c) whether Government have received complaints from any Police officers who are denied this concession, and if so, what action has been taken?

A.—(a) Yes, to sergeants at Rs. 25 per mensem. Grant of an allowance was found essential if ex-soldiers of the British army were to be recruited at all. It is considered desirable to have such men for work in the reserves and training schools.

(b) Yes; the pay of inspectors is considered sufficiently attractive without further inducements.

(c) Some sergeants without British army service have asked for the allowance and were refused it. The latest petition traceable is dated 1922. No inspectors have complained so far as Government are aware.

Acquisition of 'Goodaere's bungalow' at Calicut.

609 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with regard to acquisition of the house and compound known as 'Goodaere's bungalow' at Calicut under G.O. No. 1618, dated 29th October 1925, the emergency that occasioned the acquisition under special powers?

A.—The expenditure was authorized under section 72-D (2) (b) of the Government of India Act because it was necessary to close with the owner's offer at once and owing to the prorogation of the Council it was not possible to move a supplementary demand in October 1926. The house was required to accommodate the District Superintendent of Police, Calicut.

Finance

The revenue, expenditure and the amount contributed to the Central Government from 1884-85 to 1925-26 by the Madras Government.

610 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the revenue, expenditure and the amount contributed to the Central Government in each year commencing from 1884-85 till 1925-26;

(b) whether during the above period any amount, besides the amounts annually contributed was placed at the disposal of the Central Government by this Government;

(c) if so, what the amounts so placed were and when they were so placed; and

(d) whether there were any conditions attached to these payments; if so, what they were?

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A.—(a) Reference is invited to paragraphs 104 to 109 and 200 to 207 of the report on Indian Constitutional Reforms. Before 1st April 1921, Provincial Governments had no separate resources of their own, their income being obtained mainly from a share of divided heads of revenue and from lump assignments from Imperial revenues. There was consequently no contribution from the Provincial Government to the Central Government before 1st April 1921. The revenue and expenditure of the Provincial Government from 1889–1900 are given in Statements III and IV on pages 6–7 of the Budget Memorandum for 1927–28. The revenue and expenditure for 1884–85 and the following four years were—

				Revenue.	Expenditure.
				LAKHS.	LAKHS.
				RS.	RS.
1884–85	...	...	...	236.17	244.90
1885–86	...	...	...	254.95	240.28
1886–87	...	...	...	250.73	242.86
1887–88	...	...	...	273.54	263.00
1888–89	...	...	...	282.73	271.34

The amounts contributed since 1921–22 have been—

				LAKHS.
				RS.
1921–22	...	...	...	348.00
1922–23	...	...	...	348.00
1923–24	...	...	...	348.00
1924–25	...	...	...	348.00
1925–26	...	...	...	221.98
1926–27	...	...	...	165.19

(b), (c) & (d) No contributions were made to the Central Government other than those specified in the answer to clause (a).

Huge surpluses of budget from 1889–1890 to 1920–21, etc.

611 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state, with reference to the statement published on pages 6 and 7 of the Budget Memorandum for 1927–28, what was done with the huge surpluses shown in column 8 from the year 1889–1890 to 1920–21?

A.—The figures entered in column 8 of the statement on pages 6 and 7 of the Budget Memorandum do not represent surpluses actually realized. The actual balance at the close of each year is shown in column 5 of the statement. The figures in columns 6 to 8 show what the position would have been if the division of Revenue and Expenditure between the Central and Provincial Governments introduced with the Reforms of 1920–21 had obtained in the earlier years; they illustrate the gradual expansion and release of those revenues which have been from time to time at the disposal of the Provincial Government for purposes now scheduled as Provincial.

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Education

Administration of Sri Sankara Vidyasala High School, Kodumudi.

612 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government (the hon. the Minister or the Director of Public Instruction) received any communication from the District Educational Officer, Coimbatore and the Nilgiris, regarding the administration of Sri Sankara Vidyasala High School, Kodumudi;

(b) what action the Government have taken or intend to take on the matter; and

(c) if the Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the School Board has ceased to function properly in that articles 14 and 15 of the Registered Memorandum and rules of the Association are consistently not being acted upon; if not, whether the Government will be pleased to direct an enquiry into it?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have not received any communication on the subject from the District Educational Officer. A report will be called for.

Distribution of the provision in the budget for 1926–27 among Indian Boarding houses.

613 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the grant of Rs. 30,000 provided in the budget for 1926–27 has been distributed among Indian Boarding houses;

(b) if so, among which houses and how much for each; and

(c) how many boys there are in each of such houses?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 196. The Government have not got the information as to the amount paid to each boarding house. The total amount distributed in 1926–27 was Rs. 43,700.

Establishment of a department for the advanced study of Indian Philosophy, etc.

614 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 27, dated 25th January 1927, regarding the applications submitted by the Madras University towards the establishment of a department for the advanced study of Indian Philosophy and of a department for mathematical research—

(a) whether the amount asked for by the University was granted;

(b) what that amount is; and

(c) if not granted, the reasons for adopting such a course?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A sum of Rs. 11,900, being the amount asked for by the University, has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the current year for grant to the University towards the cost of the two departments referred to. The application of the University for the payment of the amount actually required is awaited.

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The villages with a population of 500 and more in 1922-23 and 1925-26 where there are no elementary schools.

615 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of villages in this province without elementary schools with a population of 500 or more in the year 1922-23 and 1925-26;

(b) what steps Government contemplate to take to complete the scheme of having elementary schools in all such villages; and

(c) within what period?

A.—(a)—

Year.		Number of villages or population centres.	
1922-23	4,787
1925-26	3,673

(b) The Government have sanctioned during the last three years the opening of 5,334 schools in such centres.

(c) The question will be considered in the light of the recommendations made in Mr. Statham's report on expansion of education.

Villages with a population of less than 500 and number of elementary schools in those villages.

616 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of villages in the province with a population of less than 500;

(b) in how many such villages there are elementary schools; and

(c) if the above information is not available, whether the same will be called for?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) According to the Report on Public Instruction for 1925-26 there were 38,227 centres with a population of 500 and below, out of which 7,392 were provided with schools.

Number of elementary schools where manual training is compulsory.

617 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of elementary schools in the province;

(b) in how many such schools manual training is made compulsory; and

(c) the nature of the manual training ordinarily given?

A.—(a) According to the Public Instruction Report for 1925-26 there were in that year 43,631 elementary schools for boys and 3,228 elementary schools for girls.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to note (5) to the rules framed under section 3 (v) of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, under which practical instruction should not be imparted in standards below the fourth without the previous approval of the Director of Public Instruction and it should ordinarily have reference to the chief occupations or industries of the locality and the class of pupils.

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Report of Mr. Statham on secondary education.

618 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) when Mr. Statham, the Special Officer appointed by Government, has submitted his report on the question of secondary education;
- (b) when the Director expressed his views thereon;
- (c) whether the Government have passed any orders on this report;
- (d) if not, what the cause of such long delay is;
- (e) why the report has not been published all this time; and
- (f) whether Government is prepared to publish the report; if so, when?

A.—(a) & (b) The report with the Director's remarks thereon was received by Government in May 1926.

(c) & (d) Orders have been passed on the portions of the report containing suggestions for the closure of schools or for their transfer or amalgamation on account of poor strength or for other causes. The other recommendations in the report relating chiefly to grants-in-aid and subsidies are of considerable importance and require time for consideration. The return of the permanent Director of Public Instruction (Mr. Littlehailes) had also to be awaited.

(e) & (f) The report will be published in due course along with the final orders of Government thereon.

Report of Mr. Statham regarding primary and vocational education.

619 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the main proposal made by Mr. R. M. Statham regarding primary education in this Province;

(b) whether Mr. Statham made any proposals in respect of vocational education to be given in the elementary schools; if so, what his proposals are;

(c) whether Mr. Statham was given any instructions with regard to vocational education and whether he was asked to make any proposals respecting the same; and

(d) if not, why it was not so?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the extracts from the report of Mr. Statham recently placed on the Council table.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) The Government did not consider it necessary to give such instructions.

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Local Boards and Municipal Councils

Elected and nominated members of the municipalities and union boards of Guntur district.

620 Q.—Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of elected and nominated members of the municipalities and union boards of Guntur district; and

(b) the caste and educational qualifications, if any, of each nominated member?

A.—(a) & (b) The information available with the Government on the points raised is placed on the table.^a

Irrigation schemes for the development of Chatram estate villages in Tanjore district.

621 Q.—Mr. SYED TAJUDIN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased—

(a) to call for a detailed report from the District Board, Tanjore, on the jamabandi and irrigation schemes for the development of all Chatram estate villages under the control of the District Board for the past five faslis ending with 1236 and lay them on the table of the House; and

(b) to state whether the Government will depute the Inspector of Local Boards to make a detailed investigation as to how far the economic condition of the tenants can be improved by including in the Cauvery-Mettur Project all Chatram estate villages of Tanjore district and lay his report on the table of the House at the next meeting of the Council?

A.—(a) The report received from the President, District Board, Tanjore, is placed on the table.^b

(b) The Government will consider this.

Separation of the executive and presidential functions of the local board presidents.

622 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government would consider the desirability of introducing an amendment to the Local Boards Act so as to separate the executive and presidential functions of the presidents of the local boards and to assign them to separate individuals?

A.—Yes.

Nomination of Muhammadans in the Mannargudi Municipal Council.

623 Q.—Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a non-Muhammadan has been appointed for the vacant nominated Muhammadan seat in the Mannargudi Municipal Council;

^aVide Appendix XVIII on page 151 infra. | ^b Vide Appendix XIX on page 152 infra.

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(b) whether any representation was received from the community in the above matter; and

(c) whether the hon. Minister will keep in mind the claims of the community in filling up future vacancies?)

A.—(a) Nominated seats on a municipal council are not reserved for any particular community or communities. It is not therefore correct to speak of a "Muhammadan seat". A Hindu was appointed to the Mannargudi Municipal Council in August last in a vacancy caused by the death of a Muhammadan.

(b) & (c) Yes.

The provision of funds under the heads Rural roads and Rural water-supply from 1920-21 to 1926-27 and 1927-28.

624 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government and the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the amounts provided under the heads of Rural roads and Rural water-supply in each year from 1920-21 to 1926-27;

(b) the amounts lapsed in each of these years;

(c) whether the amounts lapsed were allowed to be spent in the next year, and if so, in which years; and

(d) the amount provided under the above heads in 1927-28?

A.—(a) & (b)—

Year.	Rural roads.			Rural water-supply.		
	Amount provided.	Amount lapsed.	Amount surrendered.	Amount provided.	Amount lapsed.	Amount surrendered.
	LAKHS.	RS.	RS.	LAKHS.	RS.	RS.
1920-21 ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
to						
1924-25 ..						
1925-26 ..	6.25	1,66,254	..	6.25	2,71,333	..
1926-27 ..	6.25	1,08,645	3,99,746	6.25	1,01,852	3,10,667

(c) The amounts which lapsed in 1925-26 and 1926-27 were re-allotted in 1926-27 and 1927-28 respectively.

(d) Rs. 10,64,610 under Roads and Rs. 2,90,570 under Water-supply. It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 8 lakhs for roads and Rs. 6.50 lakhs for water-supply.

Bifurcation of the Kistna District Board.

625 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Kistna District Board was bifurcated; if so, when;

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(b) whether the President of one of the bifurcated boards was nominated; and

(c) whether the President's seat of the other was thrown open for election?

A.—(a) Yes. With effect from 9th May 1927.

(b) & (c) Yes.

Buildings for the District Board, East Godavari.

626 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Board, East Godavari, has any building of its own for the location of its office and for holding meetings of the board;

(b) whether the finances of the board permit it to have a building of its own; and

(c) if not, whether the Government will give the board any grant to enable them to have a building of their own?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) Yes.

(c) Such grants are not given.

Village Panchayats

The number of village panchayats in the Presidency.

627 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of panchayats that are working in this Province; and

(b) how many are there for each district and in what villages?

A.—(a) & (b) Two thousand four hundred and twenty-two panchayats were constituted up to 31st August 1927, as shown in the appended statement.^a The Government have no definite information as to the number of panchayats that are actually working in each district nor is information readily available as to the villages in which panchayats have been formed.

Agriculture

Schools attached to agricultural farms in the Madras Presidency.

628 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the cost of each of the schools attached to Anakapalle farm and to Taliparamba farm;

(b) the number of students in each of the above schools;

(c) how many agricultural farms there are in this Presidency at which agricultural schools can be established;

(d) whether knowledge of English is necessary for students attending these schools;

(e) the total cost for establishing agricultural schools at farms where there are none previously?

^a Vide Appendix XX on page 152 infra.

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A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) On 30th June 1927 there were 17 students at Taliparamba. The Government have not the necessary information regarding Anakapalle.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) No.

(e) The cost depends on several considerations and would vary with the locality.

Export of fertilizers to foreign countries.

629 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity and the nature of fertilizers that are being exported to foreign countries;

(b) the value of such fertilizers;

(c) whether there is any duty to be paid before they can be exported; and

(d) with regard to recommendations made by this Government to the Central Government on the question of imposing restrictions on the export of manures made in 1924, whether any reply has been received by this Government; if so, whether it will be placed on the table of this House?

A.—(a) & (b)

	Quantity in tons.	Value in RS.
Bones and bonemeal ...	6,566	6,37,935
Groundnut oil cake ...	14,985	15,96,989
Castor oil cake ...	1,212	1,10,931
Rape and sesamum oil cake...	18,261	25,56,483
Other oil cakes (omitting coconut cake) ...	349	40,671
Fish manure ...	1,093	1,37,399
Fish guano ...	5,054	6,84,137
Horns ...	1,072	4,43,624
Other kinds of manure ...	301	36,937

(c) No.

(d) A reply has been received. The Government are unable to place it on the table of the House.

Buildings

The percentage of interest derived from the capital investment made on buildings.

630 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the percentage of interest derived from the capital investment made on buildings after deducting the cost of repairs; and

(b) whether any part of the amount invested on buildings is from borrowed funds; if so, what percentage of interest is generally paid on these amounts?

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- A.—(a) The net interest for 1924–25 worked out to 1·96 per cent.
 (b) Yes—in some years—the rates of interest were 6 per cent in 1923–24 and $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent in 1924–25.

Proposed transfer of the Subdivisional Officer's office from Nidadavole to Kovvur.

631 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is contemplated to transfer the Subdivisional Officer's office from Nidadavole to Kovvur;
 (b) whether Kovvur is at the eastern extremity of the subdivision;
 (c) whether Nidadavole is more or less a central place; and
 (d) whether the Government propose to locate all the offices in the subdivision, such as Taluk Cutcherry, Munsif's Court, etc., at Nidadavole?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Hardly.

(c) Nidadavole is only about ten miles south of Kovvur.

(d) It is not proposed to move the taluk cutcherry from Kovvur. The location of District Munsifs' Courts rests with the High Court. If the hon. Member has any other offices in view he should put separate questions.

Industries

Expenditure incurred by the Madras Government in connexion with the British Empire Exhibition.

632 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the total cost incurred by the Government as a result of their taking part in the British Empire Exhibition which terminated on the 15th February 1925; and

(b) how much of the above expenditure was incurred after this honourable House had expressed its disapproval of it?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 228, Development, dated 17th February 1926, which has been laid on the table of the House.

(b) No expenditure not included in the liabilities to which the Government had been committed prior to the passing of the resolution was incurred.

Location of an Industrial school on the West Coast.

633 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether a suitable centre for locating the Industrial school on the West Coast has been selected;

(b) the nature of the industries that are intended to be taught there; and

(c) when it is intended to open this school?

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A.—As stated in answer to question No. 254 on the 27th August 1927, the question of opening an industrial school at Calicut is under consideration.

Statement regarding the working of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut.

634 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with regard to Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut—

(a) the reasons for huge profits in 1917-18 and 1918-19—58.1 and 52.6 per cent respectively;

(b) the reasons for small profits in 1919-20 and 1924-25—6.3 and .2 per cent respectively;

(c) whether the business ended in loss in 1920-21, 1922-23 and 1923-24;

(d) if so, what the percentage of loss is;

(e) what the total percentage of loss or gain is; and

(f) what the Government propose to do with this concern after 31st March 1929?

A.—(a) to (d) A statement showing the profit and loss account of the Kerala Soap Institute from 1917-18 up to date is appended.

(e) The total percentage of profit is 14.

(f) The future of the Institute will be examined at the end of 1928-29 with reference to the results of its working until that date.

Soap manufacture in the Madras Presidency.

635 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of soaps imported into this Presidency for 1925-26;

(b) the quantity of soaps produced by Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, in 1925-26;

(c) the quantity of soap, if any, manufactured by others in this Province; and

(d) whether the Government intend to start other institute to manufacture soap to meet the demand?

A.—(a) 36,533 cwt.

(b) 9,179 cwt.

(c) No statistics are available; but it is believed the quantity produced by private persons might be about 10,000 cwt.

(d) No.

Registration

Opening of a Sub-Registrar's office at Tanippadi.

636 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the people of Tanippadi and surrounding villages have petitioned Government for opening a sub-registrar's office at Tanippadi as they at present have to go to Chengam which is more than thirty miles distant from their villages;

* Vide Appendix XXI on page 153 infra.

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(b) whether it is a fact that there is now a proposal to open a sub-registrar's office at Tandrapmet, Tiruvannamalai taluk, North Arcot district;

(c) whether it is a fact that Tandrapmet is situated at a distance of only ten miles from Tiruvannamalai, and is therefore within easy reach of the Sub-Registrar's office at Tiruvannamalai;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mothakkal and Attipadi villages in Chekkadi area are at more than twenty miles distance from Tandrapmet;

(e) whether Government are aware that the people of these villages will have to cross with difficulty the rivers Pennar and Panbaiyar to get to Tandrapmet;

(f) whether the Government are aware that Tanippadi is in a central position to villages in the Chekkadi area and almost equidistant from all villages to be served by the newly proposed Sub-Registrar's office; and

(g) whether Government propose to have the office located at Tanippadi and not at Tandrapmet?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (g) There is no proposal at present before the Government to open a sub-registrar's office at Tandrapmet.

(c) to (f) The Government have no information.

Reduction of the registration fees, search fees, etc., in the Registration Department.

637 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has considered the question of reducing the registration fees, search fees and visiting fees to the scale of fees obtained before the last increase; and

(b) if so, what is the result of such consideration?

A.—(a) & (b) Search fees were not enhanced with the general increase of registration fees and the old rates still continue. The question of reducing the registration fees and the fees for private attendance is under consideration.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Audit of the accounts of temples and mutts.

638 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the appointment of 22 auditors to audit the accounts of temples and mutts under the control of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board was made after invitation in the open and public manner, of applications from candidates possessing requisite qualifications; and, if not, why such an advertisement could not be made;

(b) whether the Government have laid down any rules or principles according to which selections of auditors should be made; if so, what they are and whether all the auditors appointed satisfy all such conditions;

(c) whether it is the intention of the Government that the auditors appointed on 2nd April 1927 should have the unconditional right to audit the accounts of temples and mutts for an unlimited number of years; if not, for how many years they have been appointed; and

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(d) whether the Government consider that the number of auditors appointed is sufficient to cope with the work of annual auditing of the accounts of all the temples and mutts under the control of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, and if not, whether the Government propose to invite applications from qualified auditors for the appointment of additional auditors required?

A.—(a) The Government have approved a list of auditors, on the recommendation of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. Formal appointments will be made from the approved list under section 45 (2) of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926, on receipt of proposals from the Hindu Religious Endowments Board and the temple committees.

(b) No rules or principles have been laid down. The auditors in the approved list are all certified auditors.

(c) The period of appointment will be considered in each case when the appointment is made under section 45 (2) of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926.

(d) The Government have not yet had occasion to consider the adequacy or otherwise of the number of auditors in the approved list. The list is not final. It is open to certified auditors to apply to the Government through the President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, for inclusion in the approved list.

Introduction of an amending Bill to the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1927.

639 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether a committee was formed for going into the question of amendments to the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1927;

(b) whether the members of the Congress Party refused to accept any nominations on this committee on the ground that the Council should be permitted to elect such members;

(c) whether the above committee has met and commenced the work; and

(d) when the Government are likely to introduce the amending Bill in the House?

A.—(a) & (c) No. A conference on the matter of amendments of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act was held on the 11th and 12th July.

(b) No. The hon. Member seems to be confusing the Conference with the Advisory Committee.

(d) As soon as possible.

Committee of the Meenakshi Sundareswarar Devasthanam.

640 Q.—MR. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: With reference to the answer made in the Legislative Council on 24th August 1927 to my question No. 97, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether before passing G.O. No. 350, L. & M., dated 29th January 1927, modifying the scheme decree governing the Meenakshi Sundareswarar

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Devastanam, the Government consulted the Advocate-General as to their competency to vary the strength of the committee of that Devastanam, and if not, whether they will now consult him; and

(b) whether they are prepared to reduce the strength of the committee to five or take the necessary action under section 57 (4) of Madras Act II of 1927?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (a) of question No. 97 on 24th August 1927.

(b) No.

Muhammadian Religious Endowments and the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

641 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOILAPALLI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government propose to bring Muhammadian Religious Endowments also under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act?

A.—There is no such proposal.

Veterinary

Places for opening the new veterinary hospitals.

642 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the places for opening the new veterinary hospitals for East Godavari have been fixed; and

(b) if so, which they are?

A.—(a) & (b) The Veterinary Adviser's proposals to open twelve new dispensaries including one at Peddapur have been received and are under consideration.

Excise

Introduction of prohibition in Northern Circars by leasing arrack shops.

643 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health and the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether he will carry on experiments of introducing prohibition by leasing arrack shops in certain taluks in Northern Circars as he is doing in some taluks in the South; and

(b) if not, why not?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The closure of all arrack shops in certain taluks of Tanjore, Ramnād, Tinnevely and Salem districts is still in an experimental stage and the Government consider it premature to extend the experiment to any other areas at present.

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Corruption in the Excise Department.

644 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention is drawn to the resolutions passed by 'The Tappers Conference' held at Mummidivaram, Amalapuram taluk, East Godavari, on 9th March 1927;

(b) whether any enquiry has been held into the growing corruption in the Excise Department complained of by the Conference in Resolution No. 5; and

(c) if so, what the result of such enquiry is?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) & (c) The Commissioner of Excise examined the resolution referred to and found that the allegation of growing corruption was too general in nature to enable him to take any specific action on it.

Launching of prosecutions against the tappers by the Excise Department.

645 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has made any enquiry into the question of launching false prosecutions against the tappers by the Excise Department referred to in Resolution No. 6 of the Mummidivaram Tappers Conference;

(b) if so, with what result;

(c) if the answer to question (b) is in the negative, whether Government will make the enquiry now and place the report on the Editors' Table when received; and

(d) whether the other grievances regarding which resolutions were passed by the Mummidivaram Conference will be enquired into and remedied?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The representations of the tappers referred to were examined by the Commissioner of Excise and the result was communicated by him to the President of the Conference.

Sale of opium in Madura.

646 Q.—Mr. L. K. TULASIRAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the total sale-proceeds of opium for each district of the Presidency for the official year 1926-27 and the quarter commencing from 1st April 1927 to 30th June 1927 separately;

(b) the number of licensed vendors, licensed dealers and licensed chemists for each district of the Presidency for the official year 1926-27 and 1927-28;

(c) the total quantity of opium issued from taluk cutcheries of each district of the Presidency for (i) the official year 1926-27 and (ii) for the period from 1st April 1927 to 31st August 1927;

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(d) the quantity of opium sold in the municipality of Madura for the last five official years 1922-23, 1923-24, 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27 ;

(e) whether the Government are aware of cases of unlicensed possession and sale in the public shops of Madura of laghiums containing opium, the opium used in the preparation of such laghiums being illicit and the sale of such laghium preparations being made a cloak for illicit dealings ; and

(f) the number of shops in Madura openly selling laghiums with board labelled " Manmatha Chintamani laghium " or other equivalent names ?

A.—(a), (b), (c), (d) & (f) The Government have not the information asked for.

(e) The Government have been informed that some shops in Madura are selling certain kinds of laghiums containing opium. The matter is being investigated.

Suspension of the resolution of the Municipal Council, Tiruvannamalai.

647 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state with regard to question No. 707 (a), dated 30th March 1927—

(a) whether the Municipal Council, Tiruvannamalai, has shown cause as to why the Collector's order suspending the Council's resolution should not be made to continue in force permanently ; if so, what is the explanation given ; and

(b) what action has been taken in the matter ?

A.—(a) Yes.

The Council did not offer any explanation, but merely confirmed its previous resolutions in the matter.

(b) In exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 36 (2) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Government have directed that the Collector's order suspending the resolutions of the Council shall continue in force permanently.

Fisheries

Improvement of the industry of fisheries.

648 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what the various proposals are for improving the possibilities of the industry of fisheries as made by the Director of Industries (*Reference*—Question No. 321, dated 16th March 1927) ;

(b) whether the Government have accepted these proposals ;

(c) what the improvements are as regards the industry of fisheries with regard to East Godavari ;

(d) what the cost of the proposed improvements is ; and

(e) whether the amount is provided in the budget for the current year ?

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A.—(a) The proposals include—

- (i) the establishment of a Marine Aquarium and a Marine Fisheries station for the Circars at Vizagapatam ;
 - (ii) the stocking of tanks and channels with new and improved varieties of food fish in the Ganjam district ;
 - (iii) the establishment of a fish farm at Sonapur for the culture of oysters and backwater fish ;
 - (iv) the investigation of the possibilities of developing sea fishing off the coast of Northern Circars ;
 - (v) investigation of the possibilities of fish-breeding on a large scale in the Agencies.
- (b) Not yet.
- (c) (i) The investigation of prawn fishery in the Collair lake.
 (ii) The protection and development of the hilsa fishery in the Kistna and Godavari rivers.
- (d) No definite forecast of estimate has yet been made by the Director of Fisheries.
- (e) The answer is in the negative.

Medical

Decrease in the strength of the Medical College.

649 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the number of pupils studying in each class of each of the medical schools in the Presidency for the last five years and the reasons for the decrease or increase of the number ?

A.—A statement showing the number of pupils in each class in each of the Government Medical Schools in the Presidency during the last five years is laid on the table.* There has been a gradual decrease in the strength of the schools except the Madura Medical School and the Medical School for Women at Madras. This is mainly attributed to—

- (1) the abolition of stipends,
- (2) the diminished chances of employment under the Government owing to the gradual reduction of the cadre of sub-assistant surgeons, and
- (3) the restriction of admission to students who have taken up science subjects in the School Final examination.

Rural dispensaries in the East Godavari district.

650 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of rural dispensaries in East Godavari till the end of last year ;
- (b) whether any more will be started this year ; and
- (c) if so, how many ?

* Vide Appendix XXII on page 154 infra.

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A.—(a) Twenty rural dispensaries had actually been opened in the district up to January 1927, fourteen of which are subsidized by the Government.

(b) & (c) It is open to the Pithapuram taluk board to institute one more rural dispensary under the Government scheme. There is nothing to prevent this and the remaining taluk boards of the district from opening other dispensaries from their own funds. It is not known whether they intend to do so.

Opening of Dermatological clinics in the headquarter hospitals of Tanjore, Madura, etc.

651 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether Dermatological clinics have been opened in the headquarter hospitals of (1) Tanjore, (2) Madura, (3) Vizagapatam, (4) Coimbatore and (5) Guntur?

A.—Dermatological clinics for both in and out-patients have been opened in the headquarter hospitals at Tanjore and Coimbatore. A Dermatological clinic for out-patients has been opened in the Headquarter Hospital, Madura. Similar clinics have not yet been opened at Guntur and Vizagapatam.

Indian Medical Service officers in service in the Presidency.

652 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the information called for from the Surgeon-General with reference to question No. 714, answered on 31st March 1927, regarding Indian Medical Service officers in service in the Presidency, has now been received; and

(b) if so, to place it on the table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A statement is placed on the table.

Abolition of fees for the Wasserman's test.

653 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state with reference to answer given to question No. 715, answered on 31st March 1927, regarding the fee of Rs. 32 charged for Wasserman test for syphilis—

(a) whether the Government of India have been addressed with regard to abolition or reduction; and

(b) if not, whether this Government is going to make any representation on the subject?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question is engaging the attention of the Government.

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Memorial from the compounders regarding their pay and prospects.

654 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorials were received from compounders praying for improvement of their pay and prospects;

(b) whether it is contemplated to grant any of their requests; and

(c) if so, which of them?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government have declined to comply with any of the requests put forward by the memorialists.

Adoption of methods for the improvement of Indian Medicine.

655 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the pamphlet published by Dr. A. Lakshmiipathi, B.A., M.B. & C.M., Bhishakratna of Madras, regarding the progress of Indian Medicine in the United Provinces; and

(b) whether the Government contemplate to adopt any of the methods introduced by the United Provinces Government for the improvement of Indian Medicine?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government have decided that the Principal of the Government School of Indian Medicine should proceed to the United Provinces to examine and report on the action being taken there to encourage and develop the indigenous systems of medicine. On receipt of the Principal's report on the subject, the question of adopting any of the methods employed in the United Provinces will be considered.

Muhammadian and depressed classes students admitted in the Medical College during the past five years.

656 Q.—MR. SYED TAJUDIN: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to call for, from the Surgeon-General, a list of Muhammadian and the depressed classes candidates admitted into the Madras Medical College during the past five years ending with 31st July 1927?

A.—A list^a obtained from the Surgeon-General is laid on the table.

Public Health

Treatment of lepers in Tirumani Leper Settlement.

657 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether complaints have reached Government about the harsh treatment of lepers in the Tirumani Settlement for lepers by the present Superintendent;

(b) whether a telegram was received by the hon. the Minister about "a great strike rations reduced" in June last;

^a Vide Appendix XXIV on page 156 infra.

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(c) whether on or about 14th June 1927 it was decided by the Superintendent to reduce rations of rice, if so, to how many of the lepers, by how much, and for what reasons;

(d) whether there was an hunger strike among the lepers since June last and if so, under what circumstances;

(e) what is the system of rations to the lepers adopted in the settlement, and whether abuses have been found in the distribution of the rations and if so what;

(f) what is the number of lepers admitted into the settlement during the last six months, how many were waiting for admission last month, how many left on their own accord and how many were dismissed, and under what circumstances and for what reasons;

(g) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that harsh treatment is the cause of a large number of patients leaving the settlement; if not, what has been found to be the cause thereof; and

(h) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to keep the patients within contented?

A.—(a) A complaint was received by the Government from a leper alleging harsh treatment on the part of the Superintendent of the settlement.

(b) Yes.

(c) Partly in the interests of discipline and partly because the allowance was excessive, the Superintendent ordered a reduction for two days in the rations of 25 men from the ordinary allowance of 24 oz. to 20 oz.

(d) The lepers refused to accept rations for about half an hour.

(e) The lepers are each given a prescribed quantity of raw rations and they cook their own food. The only abuse discovered was that the lepers were selling part of their rations.

(f) The number of lepers admitted into the settlement during the six months, February to August, was as follows:—

February	...	...	...	...	66
March	...	...	...	...	89
April	...	...	...	...	44
May	...	...	...	...	64
June	...	...	...	...	44
July	...	...	...	...	32
Total					339

There was no one waiting for admission in July 1927. The number of persons discharged at their own wish during the last six months was—

February	41
March	55
April	34
May	51
June	22
July	28
Total					231

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The number of lepers discharged or dismissed during this year were five, four for selling rice to villagers and one for beating a small boy who was suffering from tuberculosis as well as leprosy.

(g) & (h) No. Two hundred and seventy-seven lepers left the settlement from January to August 1927, compared with 502 in the same period in 1926.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

LUNCH INTERVAL ON FRIDAYS.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ It will be remembered that on the 27th August last, a Muslim Member of this Council objected to the allotment of Fridays for non-official work on the ground that it would be inconvenient for the Muhammadan Members of this Council and that I then suggested that if the Muhammadan Members of the Council desired it, the House might have no objection to an adjournment of the Council on Fridays at 1 o'clock instead of at 1-30 p.m. as usual. The hon. Member, Mr. Basheer Ahmad, has since addressed a letter to me suggesting that it would be convenient to the Muslim Members of the Council if the House can be adjourned on Fridays between 12-30 and 2-30 p.m. and that if the Council so desires, it may, to compensate for the time lost, continue its sittings in the evening till 6 p.m. If this has the approval of the Members of the House generally, I have no objection to adjourn the Council on Fridays at 12-30 p.m. instead of at 1-30 p.m. and to continue the afternoon sittings till 6 p.m. on those days. I should like to hear the views of the leaders of parties on the matter.”

12 noon.

* The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“ So far as the Government are concerned, I would ask your permission, Sir, to defer submitting my remarks on this point till to-morrow.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“ I have no objection to the suggestion made by Mr. Basheer Ahmad.”

* The RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Sir, we have no objection to the House being adjourned on Fridays at 12-30 p.m. But we are not in favour of the House sitting after 5 p.m.”

III

ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* COLLECTIONS FOR THE POLICE SPORTS DURING HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO SOUTH KANARA.

* Mr. K. R. KARANT :—“ With your permission, Sir, I beg leave to move the adjournment motion which stands in my name as follows :—

‘ That the business of this Council be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the excessive and improper collections of money by the police from the people of the district of South Kanara for the police sports at Mangalore on the occasion of His Excellency the Governor's visit to the district. ’ ”

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—“ I second the motion.”